

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of annotated drawings include changes to Fig. 3.

As explained in detail below in the Remarks section, the Fig. 3 is amended as follows:

Figure 3:

Reference numbers 801a, 803a and 804a have been added in correspondence to the written description.

Attachments:

Annotated and Replacement Sheet (Fig. 3) showing changes from the immediate prior drawing.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Status

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application and have been rejected. Of these, claim 1 is independent in form. By this amendment, claims 2 and 3 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 1, 4-6, 10 and 15 are amended as set forth above and explained below. No new matter has been added.

Objections to Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as allegedly failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include reference characters mentioned in the specification. (See page 2 of the Office Action.) Specifically the Examiner identifies 801a, 803a, 804a and 953 as being mentioned in the written description but not appearing in the figures.

With regard to Fig. 3, Applicants have amended the Figure to include reference numerals consistent with those in the written description. In correspondence to the written description (see paragraph [[0046]] and [[0047]] of the published application), Fig. 3 has been amended to include reference characters 801a, 803a and 804a as specified in the Amendments To The Drawings section of this paper. Annotated and Replacement sheets for Fig. 3 are attached hereto for reference, with the Annotated sheet highlighting the actual changes made (which are circled in red) to Fig. 3.

In addition, with respect to reference character 953, reference character 953 has been deleted from paragraph [0063], as specified in the Amendments To The Specification section of this paper.

As formal drawings for all figures were previously submitted, subject to approval of the above amendments to Fig. 3, Applicants request that the attached Replacement Sheet be substituted for the originally filed Fig. 3, as a FORMAL drawing.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as allegedly failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference characters “950” and “959” are both used to designate a cradle. (See page 2 of the Office Action.) Applicants have amended the corresponding written description to remove the inadvertent typographical error and refer to the cradle only with reference character 950, as shown above in the Amendments To The Specification section of this paper.

Applicants respectfully submit that these objections are hereby satisfied and respectfully request that they be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(a)/ 103(a)

Claims 1-5, 9-11 and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Ando (USP 6,742,887). (See Office Action, pp. 3-5.) Claims 6-8 and 12-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ando in view of Saji (USP 5,479,486). (See Office Action, pp. 6-8.) Claim 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ando in view of Silverbrook (USP 6,290,349). (See Office Action, pp. 8-9.) Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ando in view of Bork (USP 6,255,800). (See Office Action, p. 9.)

Applicants disagree with the stated rejections and claim characterizations, and respectfully traverses said rejections. Applicants have herein amended independent claim 1, to further clarify the claimed invention and submits that claim 1, and the claims dependent therefrom, are patentable over the cited art.

A characteristic of claim 1, is that the battery is charged by containing the image forming apparatus in a container stand when not used, and the battery is chargeable if the image forming apparatus is contained in the container stand in a predetermined direction or in a direction opposite to the predetermined direction.

To the contrary. Ando discloses a portable electric device having a battery and a charger stand.

Saji discloses that a telephone set having a battery therein is mounted on the stand to charge the battery.

Silverbrook discloses that a medium is contained in an apparatus.

Bork discloses that a charger stand is connected to an I/F cable. But it does not teach or suggest that the printer is not contained in the stand in a condition that the printer is connected to the I/F cable.

Applicants respectfully submit that each of the cited references fails to show, alone or in combination, at least the above-identified the claimed feature of the present invention. None of the cited references discloses or suggests that the battery is charged by containing the image forming apparatus in the container stand when not used, and wherein the battery is chargeable if the image forming apparatus is contained in the container stand in a predetermined direction or in a direction opposite to the predetermined direction.

Applicants believe that the present invention as claimed is neither taught nor suggested in, and thus neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of, Ando, taken alone or in combination with the other art of record.

Dependent Claims

Applicants have not independently addressed the rejections of the dependent claims. Applicants submit that for at least similar reasons as to why independent claim 1 from which all of the dependent claims depend are believed allowable as discussed supra, the

dependent claims are also allowable. Applicants however, reserves the right to address any individual rejections of the dependent claims and present independent bases for allowance for the dependent claims should such be necessary or appropriate.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the invention as recited in the claims as presented herein are allowable over the art of record, and respectfully request that the respective rejections and objections be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application.

Applicants believe no fees or extensions of time are required for this filing. Should however, an extension of time be necessary to render this filing timely, such extension is hereby petitioned and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5166.

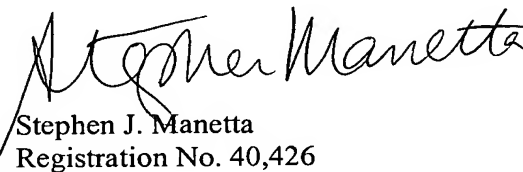
In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 24, 2005

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FIG. 3

